

Amanda Hooykaas

Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Association at University of Guelph

Kitchener, ON, CA

Bridge-builder, experiential educator, wilderness guide, lover of heritage, gardens, stories, and community.

Biography

As an educator I am interested in hearing and capturing the stories of people who might not otherwise be noticed, and sharing them with others, not to inform but more so to inspire and captivate. I aim to be a 'bridge-builder' who has the rigour of an academic coupled with an ability to communicate in a way that is accessible and engaging for people from all walks of life outside as well as inside academia. I purposefully aligned myself with other ways of teaching, beyond traditional means, such as experiential learning, team-based learning, and service learning. I photograph, make short film documentaries, and write prose... and have been inspired by the likes of Wade Davis, Jane Goodall, and others. I am self-reliant, building my own cabin in the woods, guiding wilderness trips across North America, studying gardens, and capturing the beautiful, yet often passed-over, with my lens. Regardless of where I am, I am often happiest in the camaraderie of students where engaged minds are most active and willing to challenge the possibilities.

Areas of Expertise

Geography, Sense of Community, Sense of Place, Belonging, Creative Destruction, Urban Heritage, Geographic Education, Experiential Education, Environmental Education, Pedagogy in Higher Education, Wilderness Therapy

Affiliations

Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society

Education

University of Waterloo

PhD Geography

College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine

MPhil Human Ecology

University of Waterloo

BES (Co-Op) Environment and Resource Studies

Accomplishments

Fellow of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society

Fellows are individuals who have distinguished themselves by directly contributing to scientific knowledge in the field of geography, geographical exploration, or allied sciences. Fellows may also be individuals who have distinguished themselves in teaching, academia, community service, and the arts and who have received major awards/official recognition, as well as individuals in the public sector, military, business and the professions who are seen as leaders in their respective fields.

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